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United States Department of Agriculture



MONIGER ROAD #700

Length: 18.3 miles (one way)

Difficulty: Moderate

Beginning Elevation: 9,642 feet

Elevation Gain: +1,871 feet - 2,893 feet = -1,022 feet

Trail Use: Moderate

Open To: XC, Snowshoe, Snowmobile

Ending Elevation: 8,620 feet

USGS Map(s): Vail West, Edwards,
Lava Creek

Access from Vail:

East End: Exit I-70 at Vail exit 176 and take the North Frontage Road west to Red Sandstone Road. Turn right and follow to the winter road closure gate and park here. Be aware that there is not a lot of space for snowmobile trailers, however. Follow Red Sandstone Road 6.9 miles to Moniger Road.

West End: This trail can be accessed from its west side as well. To do this, travel west on I-70 to Wolcott exit 157. Turn right at the end of the ramp, left onto Route 6, and right at the bridge onto Highway 131 toward Steamboat. Follow Hwy 131 north approximately 2.5 miles to the unmarked turn onto Muddy Pass/Moniger Road #700 just past signs for the county landfill. Park here. It is approximately 6 miles up to Muddy Pass where this map begins.

Attractions/Considerations: Commercial snowmobile tours are run up Red Sandstone Road so it receives somewhat heavy traffic to the turnoff for Moniger Road. To avoid this traffic, consider starting from the west end described above. The route is groomed from the start of Red Sandstone Road to Muddy Pass. The Red Sandstone area consists of 63 miles of roads usable for snowmobiles or cross country skiing. Any forest road in the area can be used except where signed for closures. Excellent views of the Gore and Sawatch Ranges are abundant.

Trail Highlights: This groomed road follows gentle terrain from Red Sandstone Road to Muddy Pass for 18.3 miles.

Ethics/Regulations: Before you go out, check into available routes, ownership of land, posted areas, regulations that apply, and the following rules:

- **Respect private property.** Ask permission before entering.
- **Be considerate** of other winter back-country travelers. We're all out to enjoy the outdoors.
- **Avoid disturbing wildlife** by staying out of elk and deer wintering areas. Detour if you spot wildlife.
- **Wilderness Areas and Primitive areas are closed to motorized vehicles.** Inquire at a local Forest Service office if in doubt. Obey all signs.
- **Beware of avalanches!** Avalanches may occur at any time during the winter. Avoid mountainous terrain after heavy snowfalls or prolonged periods of high wind. Stay on the windblown side of ridges. Avoid crossing steep hillsides and entering narrow, steep canyons.
- **Remember** to notify a responsible person of your travel plans.

<p>This map is intended for use as a general guide only, not for actual land navigation. The White River National Forest strongly suggests purchasing a topographic map and compass prior to your hiking trip.</p>
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